



# Somerville Urban Agriculture Ambassador Program

**Green City Growers and the City of Somerville are jointly launching an intensive, hands-on educational program which would train 15 Somerville residents in the skills needed to be able to grow food at home and in the community.**

**Residents would leave with certification as a “City of Somerville Urban Agriculture Ambassador”, and there will be an expectation of at least 30 hours of volunteer time in Somerville gardens over the course of one year as part of this program.**

## **The Details:**

Courses will take place on 4 consecutive Saturdays, March 16th- April 6th, from 10am-4pm. All sessions will be held at the Green City Growers office, near Union Square, at 600 Windsor Place, Somerville, MA.

The course will be free of charge to accepted applicants.

Lunch will be provided on the first day, and for other days, participants will be expected to bring lunch or venture to the Union or Inman areas for a lunch break.

## **Application Process:**

We are looking for residents who want to get involved in growing food both at home and with their community. The program is open to all residents, and all ages and we hope to host a diversity of demographics and representative communities.

Application deadline is February 15<sup>th</sup>, and contact info is below.

## **The course:**

Topics will include, but are not limited to:

Getting Started: Light, soil viability, locating your ideal garden space, containers vs. raised-beds vs. in-ground, small and intensive techniques

Installing a Garden: Raised-bed construction, soil selection, watering and irrigation

Planting: Picking priorities for your space, choosing plant varieties, seeds vs. starts, finding good seed and plant suppliers, creating a crop map, plant spacing, cool vs. warm weather crops, perennials and annuals

Garden Maintenance: maintaining healthy and fertile soil, organic fertilization methods, micronutrients, soil testing, spacing and thinning, transplanting, watering schedules, trellising, mulching, pest and fungal management, pruning, harvesting for maximum yield, winterizing the garden.

Season Extension: Cold Frames, hoop houses, plant selection for winter growing, winter maintenance

Beyond your Garden: Introduction to bee and chicken keeping, cooking with your produce, and information on getting involved in your community.

**Please email**

**[urbanagambassadors@gmail.com](mailto:urbanagambassadors@gmail.com)**

**to request an application.**

**Applications are due by February 15<sup>th</sup>  
and applicants will be notified by  
March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

